Lesson 3 – Discussion/Study Questions

Read the third paragraph in Chapter 1 of W. E. B. DuB Bois's "Of Our Spiritual Strivings", from "After the Egyptian and Indian, the Greek and Roman" to "keeps it from being torn asunder.."

1.	What does Du Bois list in the first sentence of paragraph 3?
2.	What is the effect of beginning the sentence with "[a]fter"?
3.	How does the phrase "born with a veil" (par. 3) further develop the idea of the "veil (par. 2) from previous paragraphs?
4.	How does the "American world" treat African Americans?
5.	How does Du Bois use figurative language to develop the idea of "double-consciousness"?
6.	What is the "twoness" Du Bois describes?

7. What does Du Bois mean by "two warring ideals"? How does the use of the word

warring refine Du Bois's description of the ideals?

8.	Where are the "ideals" "warring"? What does this description suggest about the effect of the feeling of twoness on African Americans?
9.	How does the idea of "twoness" further develop the idea of "double-consciousness"?
10	. How does the metaphor of the "veil" relate to "twoness" and "double-consciousness"?